

REMARKS

The rejection of claim 13 under 35 USC 112 is attended to above by cancelling the claim.

New claims 22-24 are added on the basis of matter originally disclosed in the specification and claims. Claim 22 is supported, for example, by paragraphs 0059, 0063 and 0087 of the published application. Claims 14-21 now show this by dependence that, by retaining the other original claim limitations, minimizes Festo-like limitations.

The rejection of independent claim 1 under 35 USC 102 for anticipation by the cited Crivella, et al. patent publication, the same of then independent claim 14, and the same as it might be applied to new independent claim 22 is traversed. For anticipation:

The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim. MPEP 2131 (citation omitted).

Amended claim 1 of the present invention claims a method for storing and retrieving personal information adapted to improve the level of contentment of a user. The method recites the following steps: (A) providing a database, for storing therein and retrieving therefrom information related to sources of contentment, each of said sources of contentment being associated with a different aspect of said user's life, (B) specifying a list of categories by which said information is to be stored in and retrieved from said database, (C) updating said database by storing information related to a user-specific memorable event, said information being stored in a unique location of said database and categorized according to a definition of each of said categories, (D) accessing one or more unique locations of said database in which categorized information associated with a plurality of memorable events is

stored, (E) transmitting to, and/or displaying on, a user interface, upon request from said user, all memorable event information associated with a selected category, (F) reviewing said transmitted and/or displayed information, (G) counting or estimating the number of memorable events within said selected category which are user-specific sources of contentment and which are user-specific sources of aggravation, (H) calculating or estimating the difference between said number of user-specific sources of contentment and said number of user-specific sources of aggravation and determining that the number of user-specific sources of contentment is significantly greater than the number of user-specific sources of aggravation for said selected category, and (I) if desired, repeating steps e-h for one or more additional selected categories.

New claim 22 recites a data storage device comprising memory means in which categorized information related to sources of contentment is stored and from which said information is retrievable, each of said sources of contentment being associated with a different aspect of a user's life.

Crivella et al, in contrast, discloses a method for providing real-time interactive knowledge management in support of activities conducted simultaneously by multiple users in different remote locations over a distributed network of computers. Concepts utilized in library science are implemented for uniform categorization of the information used in providing the knowledge management. Concepts utilized in the science of linguistics are implemented for defining information acquisition, exchange and workflow to permit categorization of the managed information. The managed information is stored in a database according to a schema which implements the categorization, and is made available in various multimedia forms to permit interactive digital data communication originated from anywhere in the world.

Although Crivella et al describes a "Knowledge Kiosk" which serves as a repository for all of the knowledge needed to accomplish a particular activity, and a system that allows the processing of data for access by remote users, the system of Crivella et al does not support the method and system of the present invention. While the stored information of Crivella et al is made available to remote users, the stored information of the present invention is made available only to the user for whom the associated event is memorable. Additionally, the retrieved information of Crivella et al is used to accomplish a particular activity external to the user interface, while the retrieved information of the present invention is used exclusively by the user in order to improve his level of contentment.

Crivella et al does not disclose a database which comprises memory means in which categorized information related to sources of contentment is stored and from which said information is retrievable, as recited in claims 1, 22 and 24 of the present invention. As described in page 3 of the specification of the present invention, a source of contentment is a personal event, activity, accomplishment or interpersonal relationship that causes one to be content. When a user remembers a plurality of sources of contentment, each of which is associated with a different aspect of his life, his level of contentment will be undoubtedly improved.

Furthermore, Crivella et al does not explicitly recite or suggest that in his database is stored information related to user-specific memorable events, including user-specific sources of contentment and user-specific sources of aggravation. Accordingly, Crivella et al fails to recite the following steps of claim 1 of the present invention: (1) updating said database by storing information related to a user-specific memorable event, (2) transmitting to, and/or displaying on, a user interface, upon request from the user, all memorable event information associated with a selected category, (3) reviewing said transmitted and/or displayed

information, (4) counting or estimating the number of memorable events within the selected category which are user-specific sources of contentment and which are user-specific sources of aggravation, and (5) calculating or estimating the difference between said number of user-specific sources of contentment and said number of user-specific sources of aggravation and determining that the number of user-specific sources of contentment is significantly greater than the number of user-specific sources of aggravation for said selected category.

Since the method and system of Crivella et al do not enable a user to determine that that the number of user-specific sources of contentment is significantly greater than the number of user-specific sources of aggravation for a selected category, it follows that the method and system of Crivella et al are incapable of being directly influential in improving the level of contentment of said user. In contrast, the method and system of the present invention enable a user to determine that that the number of user-specific sources of contentment is significantly greater than the number of user-specific sources of aggravation for a selected category. Accordingly, a user will improve his level of contentment by being directed to positive aspects of his life, by deemphasizing difficulties, by accentuating his self-importance, by increasing his self-confidence, and by developing an affinity for humanitarianism.

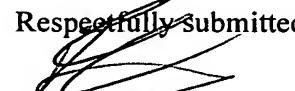
The examiner has further rejected claim 12 as being unpatentable over Crivella et al and in view of Desain et al (US 7,177,871). Desain et al discloses a method and server system for providing communication between a first user and at least one further user comprising the steps of sending a page comprising information to a first client computer for presentation to the first user, receiving a selection from the page from the first client computer, and sending information associated with the selection to at least one further client computer for presentation to a further user. This publication clearly does not anticipate or suggest the

present invention for the same reasons described in paragraphs 8-11 above. In particular, Desain et al does not recite a database in which is stored information related to user-specific memorable events, including user-specific sources of contentment and user-specific sources of aggravation, and therefore a user of the system of Desain et al will not be able to determine that that the number of user-specific sources of contentment is significantly greater than the number of user-specific sources of aggravation for a selected category. Moreover, Desain et al does not at all anticipate claim 12 of the present invention, which teaches that the database is a board adapted for use in a card game and being divided into a number of cells, whereby a player updates the database by placing a card on which is written information related to a source of contentment into a desired cell. Desain et al, in contrast, recites that board and card games may be played while using a database that lists all possible moves. As each of Crivella et al and Desain et al does not disclose a database in which is stored information related to user-specific memorable events, there is no motivation to provide a database of a card game whereby a player updates the database by placing a card on which is written information related to a source of contentment into a desired cell.

Thus claims 1 and 22 of the present invention are novel and non-obvious over Crivella et al and Desain et al. The dependent claims, which add further novel features, are therefore also novel and non-obvious.

As the objections to the present invention have been overcome, the applicant respectfully requests that the present invention be allowed on reconsideration.

Respectfully submitted,


William R. Evans
c/o Ladas & Parry LLP
26 West 61st Street
New York, New York 10023
Reg. No. 25858
Tel. No. (212) 708-1930